



# Department of Justice

**United States Attorney Joseph H. Hogsett  
Southern District of Indiana**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Friday, January 13, 2012  
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ins/>

CONTACT: Tim Horty  
(317) 229-2409; (317) 716-4250  
tim.horty@usdoj.gov

## **HOGSETT ANNOUNCES 33 YEAR SENTENCE FOR MAN WHO ENGAGED IN “SEXPLOITATION” OF INDIANA MINOR**

*Maryland man enters plea of guilty on multiple child pornography charges*

### **PRESS RELEASE**

INDIANAPOLIS – Joseph H. Hogsett, United States Attorney, and Assistant Attorney General Lanny A. Breuer of the Justice Department’s Criminal Division, announced this afternoon that Trevor J. Shea, 21, of Mechanicsburg, Md., pleaded guilty today to seven (7) counts of production of child pornography and was sentenced to 33 years in prison and lifetime supervised release following his term of imprisonment.

“Today’s hearing brings an end to a landmark case that provides justice for victims here in Indiana and across the country,” Hogsett said. “This office has no tolerance for such disturbing, predatory behavior, and we remain committed to working with our federal and local partners to identify and prosecute those who seek to prey on Hoosier children online.”

During today’s plea and sentencing hearing before U.S. District Court Judge William T. Lawrence, Shea admitted to using blackmail to coerce ten (10) minor girls between the ages of 13 and 16-years-old to produce images and videos of themselves engaging in sadistic and masochistic abuse and other sexually explicit conduct.

This case arose from an investigation by the Brownsburg Police Department, which received a complaint in late September 2009 that “Jane Doe 1,” a Brownsburg 16-year-old girl, was being “stalked” via the internet. Jane Doe 1 and a family member reported that several months earlier, Jane Doe 1 and two other female minors visited an on-line webcam site where they exposed their breasts to unknown webcam viewers.

Approximately one week later, Jane Doe 1 began receiving emails and instant messages from Shea who threatened to post the webcam images, which he had captured of Jane Doe 1 and her friends exposing their breasts, to the internet. Shea told Jane Doe 1 that if she complied with

his wishes for her to produce more images and/or webcam videos for him, he would not post her nude photos for others to see. Jane Doe 1 complied with some of these demands, and produced images and videos of herself engaging in sexually explicit conduct. She then transmitted the images and videos to him.

Working with the United States Postal Inspection Service (USPIS) as a federal law enforcement partner, the Brownsburg Police Department was able to trace the internet communications, and a federal search warrant was obtained and executed at Shea's Maryland home on March 4, 2010. Evidence was recovered during that search showing that numerous females around the country were victimized by Shea in a manner virtually identical to Jane Doe 1. Five of these other victims were identified as minor girls.

On June 9, 2010, Shea was indicted on four (4) counts of production of child pornography for his conduct against Jane Doe 1. Shea made an initial appearance on these charges and was released to his Maryland home on conditions, including home detention with electronic monitoring and a prohibition on his use of a computer or the Internet.

Thereafter, in early November 2010, the Santa Rosa County (Florida) Sheriff's Department interviewed "Jane Doe 2," a 16-year-old girl residing in Pace, Florida. Jane Doe 2 reported that an individual, later determined to be Shea, had been "blackmailing" her via the internet. Jane Doe 2 reported that she had been subjected to this kind of "blackmailing" the previous year, and it was now occurring again. Jane Doe 2 reported that previously, in the summer of 2009, an individual later determined to be Shea had threatened her via her MySpace page and she was coerced by that individual to produce nude images. After the search of Shea's residence in March 2010, images of Jane Doe 2 were recovered from his computer, but she had not yet been identified by law enforcement. Jane Doe 2 also reported that Shea contacted her through her Facebook website page and inquired whether the person who had been blackmailing her the previous year had been caught. When Jane Doe 2 replied that she did not know, Shea told her to guess who was back, proceeded to threaten her with the dissemination of nude images that he previously had obtained from her, and demanded new nude images. In response to this threat, Jane Doe 2 made videos that depicted herself engaging in sexually explicit conduct and emailed them to Shea.

Following Jane Doe 2's report in November 2010, investigators determined that the email account to which Jane Doe 2 had been coerced to send the images and videos of herself was being accessed by an individual at Shea's residence. When it was discovered that Shea was on pretrial release for the indictment obtained in June 2010, Florida law enforcement coordinated with the Brownsburg Police Department and USPIS, and a federal search warrant was executed at Shea's residence on December 22, 2010. Shea was arrested again that day, detained, and he has since remained in custody.

Investigators determined that in addition to Jane Doe 2, Shea similarly victimized three (3) other minor girls in November and December 2010 while he was on pretrial release. On

September 13, 2011, Shea was charged by information with three (3) additional counts of production of child pornography for his conduct against these four (4) minor girls.

The case against Shea was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney A. Brant Cook of the Southern District of Indiana as well as Trial Attorney Bonnie L. Kane of the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS) in the Justice Department's Criminal Division.

The case was investigated by the Brownsburg Police Department, USPIS, Indiana State Police, Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Department, and the Indiana Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Substantial assistance was provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section's High Technology Investigative Unit, and Maryland State Police.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's CEOS, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov).

###

Shea.20120113.wpd